

For Immediate Release
November 5, 2004

Contact: Ari B. Adler
517-373-5886

Sen. Sikkema calls for immediate revenue estimating conference

Governor's premature spending commitments creating need for revenue review

LANSING – Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema today sent a letter to the Senate Fiscal Agency requesting a special revenue estimating conference immediately.

“We can’t wait until January to find out where we stand financially,” said Sikkema, R-Wyoming.

September’s revenues for the state were approximately \$50 million below the revenue estimates agreed to in May. Preliminary indications are that October’s revenues could be short by more than \$100 million.

Sikkema said he wants the revenue estimating conference to convene as soon as possible and no later than Thanksgiving.

“The governor continues to make spending commitments without the money to back them up. We know last year’s budget will close in the red. The economic outlook is improving everywhere in the nation except Michigan,” Sikkema said. “It’s the perfect combination for a return to huge deficits, which should worry everyone.”

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28TH SENATE DISTRICT

State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 | PH (517) 373.0797 | FAX (517) 373.5236 | www.sikkema.org